



# AMAA

## News

Publication of the  
Armenian Missionary Association of America  
140 Forest Ave., Paramus, NJ 07652  
June, 1987, Vol. XXI. No. 4  
Telephone: (201) 265-2607, 2608

**Editors:**

G.H. Chopourian  
M.B. Janbazian



The Sunday School children of the First Armenian Evangelical Church of Uruguay presenting a Christmas play.

## SIX KEYS TO A STRONGER FAMILY



Elizabeth Caraman(ian) Payne

**Editor's Note:** The following is the condensed form of a lengthy article by Elizabeth Caramanian Payne, a Life Member and generous supporter of the ministry of the AMAA. On the occasion of Father's Day, we are pleased to share it with our readers as our "Guest Editorial."

Mrs. Payne is a registered nurse who also holds a B.S. degree from Columbia University and a M.R.E. degree from the New York Theological Seminary. Her autobiography, *Daughter of the Euphrates*, was published by Harper & Row.

Mrs. Payne has taught interdenominational Bible studies for 30 years.

Many young people today blame their maladjustments and discontent upon their parents. "They either gave no direction or the wrong direction," these malcontents assert. I thank God for my parents. They directed me to a Lord whose outstretched arms sustained me through war, massacre, starvation, extreme poverty, sickness and sorrow to an adulthood filled with an awareness of His love.

After publication of my autobiography, *Daughter of the Euphrates*, which recounted the atrocities perpetrated on my family and other Armenians by the Turkish Ottoman government in the early 1900s, I received two types of letters.

"I don't see how you ever lived through all that suffering, or how you are not insane, or at least maladjusted and disillusioned." This sentiment voiced the beliefs of those who felt we all are shaped solely by events.

The second read, "With such parents, I can see why you were able to take everything and to use your experiences as stepping stones of God."

As I look back upon my childhood, I find that my parents led us to God because that was the direction in which they themselves were going. In thinking about their lives, I see six ways they helped us develop spiritually—ways that parents today might find both helpful and challenging.

1. A special time was set aside each morning and evening for family worship. There was no exception, regardless of how many guests of different religions or nationalities were present in our home.

"This is the time when we acknowledge God. We would appreciate your joining us," my father would say.

2. We also became aware of God through our parents' attitude toward the Bible. Both father and mother believed, with gratitude, that the Bible was God's Word. Therefore, it was a Holy Book. Also, it was the authority.

Our bedtime stories were all from the Bible. And the way my mother told them, I got the feeling that she not only knew Abraham and Isaac, Paul and Peter personally, but that they were living people, our very own friends.

3. Then, too, my parents showed their devotion to God through their way of living. In our village, we took to God a portion of whatever we raised.

"Go find the best melon, pick the apricots from the east tree, take the long-thread cotton, the soft, white wool," my parents would say.

As we walked to church with all sorts of bundles, I could almost hear my mother's and father's hearts say, "These are but a token of our appreciation of Thy great gift."

Thus I sensed my parents' giving to God was an expression of humility, joy and gratitude.

— Elizabeth Caraman(ian) Payne

4. My parents considered it a privilege to worship God in His house. And so, although I resented our family spending so much time at church, nevertheless I was aware that my parents went to church because they felt the need, and that they cherished the fellowship of other believers. My father often was first to stand and pray during prayer meeting. His hearty, "Amen," after others prayed assured every hearer that he enjoyed prayer meetings.

5. My mother and father took a deep interest in others. My mother had come to our village as a bride wearing, as was the custom, several strings of gold coins about her neck, part of her dowry from my rich grandfather.

"But within less than a year, she did not have even one piece of gold left," said my elder aunt in a tone of reproach.

My mother had used the gold to buy young Christian men off from compulsory military service in the Turkish army.

My mother was always asking us to take some hot or cold food to some needy or sick person.

As for my father, he often went into the state capitol on behalf of widows, orphans and others in need. I could not even begin to list his services.

Above all, I became aware that my father and mother loved people because they loved God.

6. Example alone was enough for such tender souls as my sister. But I needed to be disciplined if I was to obey God's laws.

However much it contradicts today's theories about the evils of strictness, that which seemed harsh and unpleasant in my childhood was the source of strength in my later years. I have found life to be not a playground but a school.

My parents taught me self-restraint, self-discipline, self-giving. I am indebted to them for banning my self-expression at the expense of others, for I now know that fulfillment comes from God through self-denial. Such blessings never would have been mine if it had not been for parents who "knew Whom they believed and served."

## AMAA SUNDAY AT THE IMMANUEL CHURCH OF DOWNEY, CA

**Editor's Note:** Early this year, our Field Director, the Rev. M.B. Janbazian, traveled twice to California and devoted seven weeks to visit with our supporting churches in the Los Angeles, Fresno and San Francisco areas. During his visitations, the Rev. Janbazian took part in the annual AMAA Sunday programs of our West Coast churches, preached mission emphasis sermons, gave special messages to Sunday School students, met with our pastors, AMAA Chapters and Mission Committees, as well as visited with many members and friends of the Association. Our Field Director also spoke at special luncheons and receptions, organized on the occasion of his visits, and presented the latest developments in the mission field, answered questions and made appeals for support of the worldwide outreach of the Association.

The following report, submitted by Mrs. Kay Zoolalian of Whittier, CA, gives a brief account of the successful AMAA



Immanuel Church Missionary Luncheon — left to right, first row: The Rev. Herald A.G. Hassessian; Mr. Nazar Y. Daghlian and Dr. G.H. Chopourian. Second row: Mr. Budd Kahian; Mr. Vahe Ashkarian; Mrs. Kaye Zoolalian and Mr. Jack Birebirian.

Sunday luncheon organized and served by the Missions Committee of the Immanuel Church in Downey, CA.

A successful Mission Luncheon was

held on Sunday, January 25, 1987 following the annual AMAA Sunday Service of the Immanuel Armenian Congregational Church (IACC) of Downey,

### The Inspirational Corner

#### IF JESUS CAME TO YOUR HOUSE

If Jesus came to your house to spend a day or two,  
If He came unexpectedly, I wonder what you'd do.  
Oh, I know you'd give your nicest room to such an  
honored Guest,  
And all the food you'd serve to Him would be the very best—  
And you would keep assuring Him you're glad to have Him  
there,  
That serving Him in your home is joy beyond compare!  
But when you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at  
the door,  
With arms outstretched in welcome to your Heavenly  
Visitor?  
Or would you have to change your clothes before you let  
Him in,  
Or hide some magazines and put the Bible where they'd been?  
Would you turn off the radio and hope He hadn't heard—  
And wish you hadn't uttered that last, loud hasty word?  
Would you hide your wordly music and put some hymn books  
out?  
Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?  
And I wonder — if the Savior spent a day or two with you—  
Would you go right on doing the things you always do?

Would you keep right on saying the things you always say?  
Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?  
Would your family conversation keep up its usual pace?  
And would you find it hard each meal to say a table grace?  
Would you sing the songs you always sing and read the books  
you read?  
And let Him know the things on which your mind and  
spirit feed?  
Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you'd planned to  
go,  
Or would you, maybe, change your plans for just a day or so?  
Would you be glad to have Him stay forever on and on,  
Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last was gone?  
It might be interesting to know the things that you would do  
If Jesus came in person to spend some time with you.



Sunday Bulletin  
Arm. Church of The Holy Martyrs  
Bayside, NY

412-883



Outgoing officers of Immanuel Church Missions Committee, Mr. Budd Kahian (left), Treasurer, and Mr. Vahe Ashkarian, Chairman, with Mrs. Kay Zoolalian, the newly appointed chairperson.

CA. About 100 members and friends attended the event which took place in the Social Hall of the host Church. Mrs. Zoolalian, Chairperson of IACC Missions Committee, welcomed those in attendance as well as introduced the guests sitting at the head table: Mr. Nazar Y. Daghlian, President of AMAA; The Rev. Dr. G.H. Chopourian, AMAA Executive Director; The Rev. Moses B. Janbazian, AMAA Field Director; The Rev. Dr. Herald A.G. Hassessian; Mr. Steve Kradjian; Mrs. Violet Fermanian; and Honored Guest, Mr. Vahe Ashkarian, Past Chairman of IACC Missions Committee. In her opening remarks, Mrs. Zoolalian thanked Mrs. Gladys Vartanian, Grace Soukesian and Albert and Susie Antoyan for their generosity in sponsoring jointly the luncheon.

Rev. Janbazian presented an encouraging and inspiring report on AMAA's missionary work in the United States and overseas. Mr. Daghlian and the Rev. Chopourian presented a Life Membership plaque to the Rev. and Mrs. Mardiros Marganian. The Marganians, unfailingly faithful and generous supporters of the AMAA, have served the Immanuel Church for 15 years beginning in 1960.

Mr. Vahe Ashkarian, the immediate past Chairman of IACC Missions Committee, was presented with a special Certificate of Appreciation plaque. A former Board member of the AMAA and a generous supporter of AMAA's missionary cause, Mr. Ashkarian was recognized for his 22 years of devoted



The Rev. Mardiros and Mrs. Sirvart Marganian are presented with an AMAA Life Membership Plaque by Mr. Nazar Y. Daghlian and Dr. G.H. Chopourian.



The dedicated ladies who prepared and served the AMAA Sunday Luncheon.

services to the Association as the Chairman of IACC Missions Committee.

Mr. Steve Kradjian, Chairman of the IACC Council, presented some statistics on the status of Missions support of the Immanuel Church which ranks in the top two churches in the amount of gifts given in support of AMAA's missionary outreach.

Those in attendance at the luncheon were invited to join the Child Education Sponsorship Program of the AMAA. Eighteen children found sponsors at the luncheon and five additional children were sponsored the following Sunday. Mrs. Zoolalian announced that in Memory of their beloved Mother, Mrs. Beatrice Ashkarian, the Ashkarian, Fermanian and Manjikian families donated \$4,000.00 for the educational programs of the AMAA. During the preceding

AMAA Sunday worship service, a second offering was taken for the "Save Shahe" fund of the AMAA. The sum of \$1,053.00 was collected for this special purpose.

In summary, a total of \$8,159.58 was raised for AMAA's missionary work through the luncheon proceeds, sponsorship contributions, offerings and donations.

Before the conclusion of the program with the benediction of the Rev. Dr. Herald A.G. Hassessian, Mrs. Zoolalian thanked everyone who attended the luncheon and supported the work of the AMAA. Special appreciations were extended to Mrs. Queenie Kazarian and her devoted helpers who prepared and served the luncheon which provided a joyful opportunity to celebrate and support the unique mission of the AMAA.

## THE CHRISTIAN OUTREACH OF THE AEESC

The Armenian Evangelical Social Service Center of Hollywood, CA (AEESC), one of the important Home Mission projects of the AMAA, is faithfully pursuing its mission to reach out to underprivileged and handicapped Armenian immigrants in the Los Angeles area. The following story, related in the latest report of the Director of AEESC, Mrs. Roseann Saliba, illustrates the noteworthy services that are being rendered to those who, because of many and serious difficulties, call upon the Center for guidance and practical assistance.

"The 49 year old husband of a couple familiar to the AEESC came to the Center in despair. He is chronically ill and unable to work. He has been able to collect disability and was insured through his work for one year. His wife, having had recent surgery, is disabled for six months and unable to work. She does not qualify for disability. His disability grant was exhausted in November and they have no income and no immediate family from which to borrow money. They have depleted their savings.



The dedicated volunteers and Board Members of the Armenian Social Service Center of Hollywood, CA.

"I felt I should be directly involved in this case and take immediate action. The Center assisted them in applying for permanent disability for the husband which will take approximately three to four months. In the meantime, I decided to help them try for some government cash assistance.

"On four occasions, each requiring 3-4

hours, I escorted the couple to the County Welfare Department where I assisted them in filing the required forms and acted as an interpreter since they are limited in English.

"Finally, after hours of work and waiting in lines, we were able to get this couple emergency relief for six months or until she is able to return to work."

## MERDINIAN SCHOOL STUDENTS WIN TOP AWARD

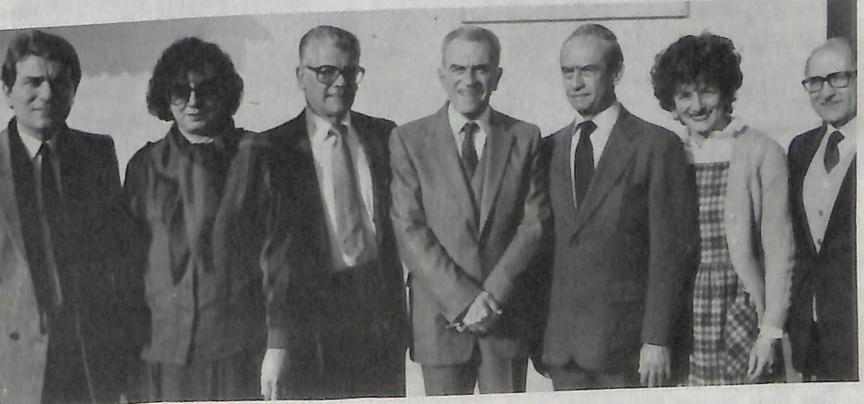
The Merdinian Armenian Evangelical School won the top award in an Armenian history contest held among six Armenian schools on March 8th at the St. Gregory Armenian Church's Agajanian Hall in Pasadena, CA.

The schools participating in the contest were: Arshag Dickranian School, Merdinian School, Mekhitarist School, Sahag-Mesrob School, St. Gregory School and St. Peters (M. Manoogian) School.

The contest was organized by the Nor Serout Cultural Association. Each school had six participants, five students and one judge.

The Merdinian School won first place, followed by the Mekhitarist School and the Sahag-Mesrob School.

The three students with the highest scores were: Shogher Kassarjian (first place), Mardig Basteguiyan (second place)



AMAA Officers with Merdinian School Board Members - (l. to r.), Mr. Koko Balian, Mrs. Anahid Terjimanian, Mr. Herald DeMirjian, Mr. Nazar Y. Daghlian, Dr. G.H. Chopourian, Mrs. F. DeMirjian, and School Principal, Mr. Aram Boolghoorjian.

and Haig Boyajian (third place). All three are students at Merdinian School.

We congratulate our youngsters, their school principal, Mr. Aram Boolghoorjian, and faculty advisors, as well as the organizers of the contest for their commendable effort to preserve the history of our people.

## A LIVING MEMORIAL HONORING DR. MEGUERDITCH EJDAHARIAN

How can you observe the anniversary of the death of a beloved one in a meaningful way? What can you do to perpetuate, as well as honor the memory of a departed family member or a friend? Memorial services may offer a brief moment of consolation, but they also revive memories and evoke sorrows. There is a meaningful way, a Christian way—A Living Memorial. And that was the way the Ejdaharian family chose to mark the 20th Anniversary of the passing away of their father, Dr. Meguerditch Ejdaharian. Early this year, Mother Elise Ejdaharian and her daughter, Ardemis, made a contribution of \$20,000.00 to the AMAA and established the Dr. Meguerditch Ejdaharian Memorial Fund, the annual income of which will be used to assist in the training of nurses, medical doctors and students specializing in health care services. In providing the generous donation, Miss Ejdaharian said, "We are establishing this fund as a Living Memorial in honor of my father, and we will be comforted to know that his medical services will continue through the work of those who will be assisted from the income of this fund."

Dr. Meguerditch Ejdaharian was born in 1883 in Arabkir. He was raised by an uncle after losing his parents at an early age. His life story is a tribute to his determination to overcome the difficulties common of the life of an orphan and become a useful person in society. He graduated from the Medical School of the



Dr. Meguerditch Ejdaharian

French University of Beirut, Lebanon, after which he held positions and practiced in Damascus, Deortyol, the Turkish Army, Beirut, Alexandria and Gaza. He finally settled in Tripoli, Lebanon where in 1967, he made the transition from this life to life eternal.

Dr. Ejdaharian was an intelligent, yet humble and caring person sincerely loved and respected by his friends, colleagues and patients. He left a previous legacy of generosity, loving concerns, and humility which is so clearly reflected in the lives of his surviving family members: his wife, Elise; son, Haig and family; and daughters, Ardemis and Mrs. Araxie Karamanoulian and family. A third daughter, Armine Bilezikian, died of cancer in 1985 at age 56.



Mr. Nazar Y. Daghlian presenting AMAA life Membership Plaque to Mrs. Elise Ejdaharian.



Dr. G.H. Chopourian with Miss Ardemis Ejdaharian

## THE REV. ROGER MINASSIAN'S CAMPUS MINISTRY

The Rev. Roger Minassian, pastor of The Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church in Fresno, California has extended his ministry beyond his congregation by organizing a chapter of Alpha Gamma Omega (AGO), a Christian Fraternity, at California State University, Fresno. According to Rev. Minassian, (AGO) is a unique social fraternity, because it stresses the spiritual and emotional development

of its members.

Alpha Gamma Omega Chapters have an "unwritten policy" of no beer and no dancing at parties, forcing members to think of different ways to have a good time. AGOs hold theme parties in place of the standard college beer bash. They participate in many kinds of intramural sports and do more community service than other fraternities. Most chapters hold

weekly prayer and Bible study meetings which are open to the other fraternities and sororities.

The Rev. Minassian, an Alumnus of AGO, regards Alpha Gamma Omega as "The Fraternity of Eternity". One of every four Alumni of the group is dedicated to full-time Christian Service and the rest are devoted Christian laymen giving strength to Christ's Church.

## ARMENIANS IN LEBANON: A FORGOTTEN MINORITY

**Editor's Note:** The following article is the condensed form of a news story carried on by the Associated Press on May 12, 1987. The article is written by Samir F. Ghattas, an Associated Press journalist who describes the Armenians in Lebanon as a forgotten minority, "caught between warring militias and victimized by a worsening economic crisis".

Stateless Armenians, a forgotten minority buffeted by Lebanon's 12 year civil war, are staying on, although caught between warring Christian and Moslem militias and victimized by a worsening economic crisis.

Some 20,000 Armenians have left Lebanon since the civil war broke out on April 13, 1975, and devastated the country's once-booming economy. But the majority have remained.

Most consider Lebanon their adopted home after their forefathers fled their native land in what is now Turkey.

Armenians found opportunity in Lebanon as a center of Middle East commerce before the bloodshed began and became a political factor in Lebanon's sectarian system.

They have six deputies in the 99 member Parliament and occasionally get a Cabinet post.

As estimated, seven million Armenians are scattered worldwide. Some three million live in the Soviet Republic of Armenia, a segment of their original homeland, and a million and a half more in other Soviet regions. The largest communities elsewhere are 600,000 in the United States, 400,000 in France and about 200,000 each in Lebanon and Iran.

Lebanon's 200,000 Armenians are the country's seventh largest religious community. The Orthodox Christian Armenians have their own churches, seminaries and schools, clubs, restaurants, and Red Cross relief. Armenians work in trade, shoemaking, leather tanning, industry and goldsmithing.

Beirut has three Armenian-language newspapers and three FM radio stations.

The Armenians have small militias to defend their areas, but have remained generally neutral in the conflict between Moslems and Lebanese Christians, who

are mainly Maronites.

That has not spared them from the blood-letting or harassment by Moslem and Christian factions. About 500 of the estimated 125,000 people killed in the civil war were Armenians.

An Armenian religious leader, who has lived in Lebanon since his teens, said in an interview that "the majority of the people here are determined to stay."

Some had lived in Moslem west Beirut, cockpit of much of the violence, but most have fled. They were not encouraged to stay there.

Moslem extremists harassed the Armenians because they considered them to

be more inclined to the Christians rather than the Moslem side.

The Armenians have been troubled by rightist Christian militias who are not very happy about the Armenians not being engaged in the war. They want the Armenians to be on their side in the fighting.

The Bourj Hammoud district, part of the Christian heartland that runs from the capital, is Lebanon's largest Armenian concentration. Other Armenians live in the northern Moslem city of Tripoli, the Christian town of Zahle and the village of Anjar in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa valley of east Lebanon.

## CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR UNION PLANS FOR SUMMER CAMPS



As the summer season draws nearer, we would like to invite our members and friends to join us in praying for the Armenian Evangelical Christian Endeavor Union of Syria and Lebanon (AECEU) which is making plans for its 1987 Summer Camp Program. Hundreds of youth of different age groups benefit from the summer camp activities of the AECEU which are held at the Kchag Centers of Beit Meri, Lebanon and Kessab, Syria. Included in the Summer Camp Program of the AECEU are special sessions for adolescents, Sunday School teachers, C.E. youth as well as undernourished children.

As in previous years, this year, too, the AMAA is helping in the operation of the Programs of the AECEU. The total outlay the Association provides is close to \$27,000 which includes special grants towards the salary of an editor; the publication of Chanasser and Badanegan Artzakank; the salary of Mr. Mgo Melkonian, C.E. Youth Director of Syria; Daily Vacation Bible Schools; and summer camps.

Pictured above are camp leaders with a group of undernourished children who have benefitted from the AECEU Summer Camp Program in 1986.

## UPDATE ON SHAHE

Our gratitude to those churches, Sunday schools, youth groups and AMAA members and friends who promptly responded to our appeal and came to the aid of Shahe. The total amount of contributions received for Shahe's surgery expenses was about \$12,000.

Doctors do not recommend further surgery for Shahe. His eye has not been completely healed, but thanks to the surgeries and the medical attention he received, he is assured that his pupil will not have to be removed.

Shahe is now living with his relatives in Chicago. His father is expected to arrive from Lebanon soon and take him home.

On behalf of Shahe and his family, we wish to extend our thanks to all those who, through their prayers, practical assistance and financial gifts, made the "miracle" of saving Shahe's eye possible.

### Shahe's Eye Surgery Fund Financial Statement

Total contributions received by AMAA  
Expenses by Harry Papazian:

Travel expenses (Chicago-Boston)

of 3 family members

Hotel, 2 nights

Medical examination, tests in Boston

Travel expenses (Boston-Chicago) for 3  
University of Illinois Medical Hospital

Expenses of Doctors:

University of Illinois Medical Service Plan  
for Doctor's Fees

Balance distributed to University of Illinois  
Medical Hospital

## LETTERS . . .

### Joining the "Pilgrimage of Thought"

I enjoyed your editorial "Our Annual Pilgrimage" in April 1987 AMAA NEWS.

I, too, am outraged that the 1915 genocide has gone unacknowledged for so long.

I am a second generation American/Armenian and I'm just as upset as the ones who were there! For example, my grandfather, Harootoun Ersylian (later changed to Esralian) lost a wife and daughter to the

"murderers."

The enclosed articles appeared in the "Oregonian" (Oregon's largest newspaper) on "Armenian Day", April 24th. I hope you enjoy these as much as I have.

I will join you in this "pilgrimage of thought" every year.

Keep up the good work and God bless you.

Michael J. Esralian  
Aloha, Oregon

## THE REV. VARTAN HARTUNIAN HONORED AT NAASR RECEPTION



The Rev. Vartan Hartunian

The Rev. Vartan Hartunian, Pastor of the First Armenian Church of Belmont, MA, was honored at a special reception on April 3 on the occasion of the publication of the second edition of his father's book, *Neither to Laugh Nor to Weep*.

The book describes the late Rev. Abraham Hartunian's survival through three massacres in Turkey (1894-96, 1915 and 1922) and his miraculous escape from death on seven different occasions. The memoirs was translated into English by Rev. Vartan Hartunian in the late 1930s, but remained unpublished for three decades.

Speaking at the reception, organized by the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR), the Rev. Hartunian recounted the obstacles he had to overcome in order to have his father's memoirs published. The manuscript was rejected by several publishers before Beacon Press agreed to print it in 1968.

Although the book was reprinted by the Armenian Missionary Association of America in 1976, it was out of print for several years. Recently, NAASR released a second expanded edition of the book which is regarded as one most revealing accounts about the Armenian Genocide.

The new expanded edition of, *Neither to Laugh Nor to Weep*, includes an in-

troductory by Marjorie Housepian Dobkins, author and dean at Barnard College, Columbia University, who had come from New York for the reception. The new edition also includes, as a preface, an article written in 1918 by the late Henry Morgenthau, the U.S. Ambassador to Turkey during World War I.

The book may be obtained from the AMAA Headquarters at \$9.95, plus \$1.50 for postage and handling per copy. Place your order by writing or phoning:

AMAA BOOK SERVICE PROGRAM  
140 Forest Avenue  
Paramus, New Jersey 07652  
Phone: (201) 265-2607, 265-2608

## LUCY JANJIGIAN EXHIBITS RECENT WORKS



Left to right: The Rev. Dr. G.H. Chopourian, Artist Lucy Janjigian, Mrs. Yerouhie Chopourian, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian and Mr. Edward Janjigian.

Lucy Janjigian of Franklin Lakes, N.J., exhibited her recent twenty paintings in a one person show at the Treasury Gallery of the Inter-Church Center in New York City. The exhibit, entitled, "The Uprooted," ran from March 23 through April 17, 1987. The theme running through the displays brought tears to Armenian and non-Armenian alike for it showed tragedies caused by man's inhumanity to man.

The Rev. Don Smith, head of the Presbyterian Synod of California and Hawaii, asked for slides of the art work to be shown in different churches for fund raising for refugees. The United Nations is also in contact with Lucy for the same purpose.

## THE FIRST ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF URUGUAY



Thanks to the devoted labors of its lay leaders and recently ordained pastor, the Rev. Dr. Obed Boyadjian, the First Armenian Evangelical Church of Uruguay is showing encouraging signs of commitment and growth in its ministry. The Chairman of the Church Council, Mr. Loutfi Kouyoumdjian, reports that Church members are responding to stewardship challenges with enthusiasm, and the Sunday School is taking an important and visible part in the programs and activities of the Church. The picture above shows the Sunday School children of The First Armenian Church of Uruguay presenting a Christmas play.

## DR. H. PHILIP HOVNANIAN RECOGNIZED BY FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

H. Philip Hovnanian, Ph.D., a member of the Board of the AMAA, was recently awarded with a special Certificate of Appreciation by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of the Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. Hovnanian was recognized for his outstanding service to FDA and for his valuable guidance and efforts during his term as the Industry Representative of the Obstetrics-Gynecology Devices Panel. Dr. Hovnanian, a Biomedical Devices Consultant, is a highly respected scientist in the field of his specialization, having previously served as Vice President of several medical companies.

Dr. Hovnanian is an active participant in the life and work of the AMAA, serving as a member of the Board, the Executive, Investment, Budget-Finance and Nominating Committees, as well as the Chairman of the Haigazian College



Dr. H. Philip Hovnanian

Eastern Committee. He is also active in the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York, NY, where he is currently serving as the Moderator of the Church.

**THE 85TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF THE REV. HOVEY M. HOVAGIMIAN**



The Rev. Hovey Hovagimian

The 85th birthday of the Rev. Hovey M. Hovagimian of Oakland, California was marked with a dignified celebration on March 21, 1987. The celebration was held at the fellowship hall of the First Presbyterian Church of Alameda, California and was attended by members and pastors of various churches, representatives of fraternal, social and diverse nationality groups and a host of friends of the Rev. Hovagimian. Mr. Edward Medzian of the Calvary Armenian Congregational Church acted as Master of Ceremonies and a number of Armenian and non-Armenian clergymen and close friends of the Rev. Hovagimian took part in the program with words of greeting and congratulations. Notable among the participants in the program were His Grace Bishop Aris Shirvanian, Pastor of St. John Armenian Church of San Francisco; Mrs. Doris Melkonian, a newscaster of CBS; Mr. Edward Minassian, President of the NorCal Armenian Home for the Aged; and the Rev. Raymond M. Currie, Pastor of the host church.

One of the high points of the celebration was the presentation to the Rev. Hovagimian of an engraved testimonial plaque from the President and Executive Director of the Armenian Missionary Association. Part of the inscription on the plaque stated:

"The Board of Directors, the officers and the entire AMAA missionary family greet you lovingly on the special occasion

of the happy celebration of the 85th anniversary of your birth. We were delighted on hearing this good news because if there is anyone who deserves an accolade for humble and effective Christian service rendered, it is you, Hovhannes Mgrditch Hovagimian.

"We take pleasure in adding our sincere and loving wishes on your anniversary celebration that you will continue to enjoy many more years of good health, strength and blessings and to leave this phrase with you from the Word of God which you honor with heart and soul: 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.' Matt. 5:9."

**JAY ATTARIAN GIVES KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT UACC ANNIVERSARY BANQUET**

Mr. Jay Attarian of Woodland Hills, CA was the keynote speaker at the Annual Banquet of The United Armenian Congregational Church of Hollywood, CA (UACC), the Rev. Berg Djambazian, Pastor.

The Banquet which was held on March 28, 1987, was organized in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the UACC. Mr. Attarian, who is the President of the Jayson Realty of Van Nuys, CA, is an internationally recognized Christian businessman, actively involved in many Christian and community services. He is the President of Optimist International, and in that capacity, last year, he traveled extensively, made over 500 speeches and met with a host of world leaders, including the President of the United States, the Prime Minister of Canada, congressmen and senators.

Ordained as a deacon of West Adams Presbyterian Church at age 18, Attarian went on to leadership of Western Division and later was chairman of evangelism for the Southern California Presbyterian Men's Association.

Attarian, who has taught high school, college and adult Bible study classes for years, is also chairman of the finance committee of "Thru The Bible Radio," a worldwide Bible teaching radio program heard three times a day in Los Angeles.

Mr. Attarian and his wife, Virginia, are a mission-minded couple, who have



Mr. Jay Attarian flanked by Dr. G.H. Chopourian and Mr. Nazar Y. Daghlian.

always showed a keen interest in the AMAA and included its ministry in their stewardship.

**ERMANCE REJEBIAN HONORED FOR HER UNIQUE ART OF BOOK REVIEWING**

Ermance Rejebian was honored on March 22nd by the Armenian Church of Dallas-Forth Worth, Texas on her retirement from her outstanding career as, "The foremost Book Reviewer/Lecturer in the Southwest". A pioneer in the unique art of Book Reviewing, Mrs. Rejebian is considered by her peers to be the Dean Emeritus of their profession.

Through oral presentations of literary works, including classics such as, *War and Peace*, *A Tale of Two Cities* and *The Forty Days of Musa Dagh*, and books from the Bible, Ermance has informed, entertained, and inspired thousands of groups throughout Texas and Oklahoma over her fifty year career, a collective audience of over one million people. Included, too, have been presentations of her own personal reflections entitled, "The Promised Land", "Testament of Faith", "Pilgrimage to Freedom".

Mrs. Rejebian, the aunt of Mrs. Joyce Stein, Chairman of the Stephen Philobosian Foundation, has been married 59 years to Vahram Rejebian, a retired Oriental rug merchant of Dallas, Texas. The Rejebians have two children and six grandchildren, and are long-standing and faithful supporters of AMAA's mission.

**MR. & MRS. EDWARD MARDIGIAN HONORED**



The University of Michigan-Dearborn recently honored Edward and Helen Mardigian for donations totalling \$750,000.00 by hosting an elegant reception in their honor. The Mardigians have pledged \$500,000.00 to the UM-D Center for Armenian Research and Publication, which will go toward the \$1 million endowment the Center is raising. Pictured above (left to right) are: UM-D Chancellor William and Mrs. Alice Jenkins, and Edward and Helen Mardigian.

**MAX BEDROS LOUSIN CELEBRATES 80TH BIRTHDAY**



The 80th birthday of Max Bedros Lousin of Chicago, IL, was celebrated by his family last August. A survivor of the Armenian genocide, Max came to the U.S. via Mexico City in 1926. He became a citizen and married Opal Anderson in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1937. A graduate of Iowa State College with a Master's Degree in Chemistry, Max retired from Sun Chemical Corporation in 1971. Pictured above with Max and Opal are (from left): daughter, Ann Lousin; granddaughter, Sara and Elizabeth Mirza; and daughter and son-in-law, Leona and David Mirza.

**PIANO PEDAGOGY SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED IN HONOR OF MARIE KASSOUNY**

Malone College professor of music, Chairman of the Division of Fine Arts, and pianist, Marie Kassouny, is retiring after 19 years of service to Malone. On April 25, 1987, she presented a farewell chamber recital joined by some of her outstanding former students at the Cable Recital Cultural Center, Canton, Ohio.

At the conclusion of the program, the president of Malone, Dr. Gordon Werkema, made the announcement requested a week earlier by Marie, that she desired to retire fully and planned to move from Canton. Dr. Werkema very graciously outlined Marie's background, her origins in Beirut, Lebanon, the close ties with her parents and sisters and the desire to be able now to spend her days with family located in Philadelphia. He expressed deep appreciation for Marie's services to Malone and the bestowing of the title of Artist-in-Residence if she desired to stay,

on a part-time basis. Then Mrs. Carnes

presented Marie with a plaque from her former students expressing their gratitude for her many years of teaching. The evening ended with a reception in Miss Kassouny's honor which gave Marie a chance to bid her farewells personally. It was also announced at the recital that the Marie Kassouny Piano Pedagogy Scholarship has been established in honor of Marie's years of teaching Piano Pedagogy at Malone.

**POSTHUMOUS EXHIBITS OF NISHAN YARDUMIAN**

Artist, Nishan Yardumian, the sixth child of the late composer, Richard Yardumian, will have posthumous showing of his work at the Glencairn Museum, Academy of the New Church in Philadelphia starting May 3 and going through June 21, 1987.

Termed "Nishan Yardumian, A Retrospective Exhibit of Paintings," the exhibit will reveal that the late artist was as talented and as skilled in art as his late father was in music.

Nishan Yardumian's apprenticeship was varied and intensive. Dr. Furman Finck, known for his nonpareil portraits of, for instance, President Dwight Eisenhower and actress Helen Hayes, directed the younger artist's talents.

Nishan grew up in a 1702 Pennsylvania farmhouse with three brothers and nine sisters. He was married and had a son named Aram.

Nishan Yardumian was a 1970 graduate of Fordham University. His own teaching had been both shown privately and in schools of Art and Art Centers. He served on the Executive Staff of the Glencairn Museum, a private museum recently opened to the public, possessing a very rare collection of 12th century sculpture and stained glass. In this capacity, Nishan Yardumian was responsible for the gallery "Medieval treasury", and he worked on the production of the Metropolitan Museum of Arts' exhibit, "Radiance and Reflections".

The present one-man show is the second time the spectrum of Nishan Yardumian's work will be presented.



# OBITUARIES

**Sympathies extended:** — The Board of Directors, the Executive Director, the Field Directors and the staff, all of whom are acquainted with the deceased, their families and relatives through the AMAA records, extend their sincere and deep sympathies to the immediate kin, relatives and friends of the deceased, whose obituaries, transmitted to the Editor by pastors, friends or relatives, are recorded below.

"Let not your heart be troubled," said our Lord, "ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions . . . I go to prepare a place for you. . . . I will come again, and receive you unto myself." (Jn. 14:1-3). This is the hope by which we should all live.

## MILTON (MIHRAN) NAJARIAN



Milton (Mihran) Najarian

We are deeply saddened by the passing away peacefully of Attorney Milton (Mihran) Najarian on Tuesday March 17, 1987. He was born in Newark, NJ on October 16, 1909 and spent his entire life in New Jersey.

Milton attended the Morton Street Grammar School, Weequahic High School, New York City College and Rutgers University. He graduated from the New Jersey Law School, an affiliate of Rutgers, in 1932.

Milton spent time in military service, serving in Ithaca, New York.

He worked as legal counsel to the Hekemian Company for a period extending from 25 to 30 years. It was as a result of this association that the Armenian Missionary Association of America became closely associated with him. He worked on Charitable Trusts the Hekemian Family established with the AMAA. His work on those documents was correct, meticulous and thorough.

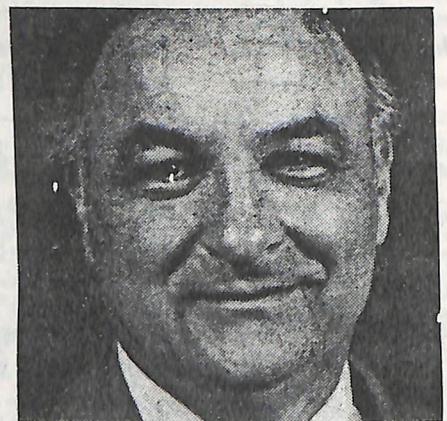
We found him to be a very sensitive person, harmless, kindly, of peaceful demeanor, thoughtful and generous. He established the Baidzar Najarian Family Endowment Fund with the AMAA in 1974 following the death of his mother during that year, demonstrating this generous and thoughtful nature of his. His father had entered his rest in 1941 and his sister Alice in 1974.

Milton is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Rose Najarian Hagopian and Lucy Najarian; two brothers, James and John; three nieces and one nephew, Linda Capizzi, Jo-Ann Tashjian, Carol Keenan and Richard Najarian; and four grandnieces and four grandnephews.

## MARTIN JOHN ANSOORIAN

Martin John Ansoorian was born November 30, 1935 in North Bergen, NJ to John and Laura Ansoorian. As a boy, Martin's happy nature was an attraction to his many friends. He loved sports and music. He played clarinet and saxophone and later taught himself how to direct choirs.

The role of the church had a major impact on him throughout his life. As a young man, he attended Gethsemane Congregational Church and made many life-time friendships. Martin's commitment to God enabled him to love others in a giving way. Martin's dedication to his family was something he held with honor.



Martin John Ansoorian

Martin was a graduate of Los Angeles High School and attended L.A. City College for one year before joining the Navy. After two years service at Pearl Harbor, he returned to L.A. where he met and married Diane Karagozian on July 18, 1959. He worked for Hughes Aircraft Company and attended the University of Southern California, earning his degree in Business Administration. In the early 70's, he went into business for himself, forming Award Record Manufacturing Company with a childhood friend.

Martin and Diane were blessed with two children, Tami and Ronny, both of whom they held with pride and joy.

Martin was challenged by the need to help others. His philosophy was to put others before himself, never asking for anything in return.

Martin directed and sang in the chancel choirs at Gethsemane and the United Armenian Congregational Church of Havertown, PA. and interment was at the Arlington Cemetery in Drexel Hill.

Born on April 21, 1931, Mr. Apoian work-

member of the Board of Directors and Trustees, served as pastoral liaison for the church, chaired the music, banquet, picnic and pastoral search committees and served on the executive committee of the church.

He served as president of the Westchester American Little League where son, Ronny, played baseball and served as Director of Music and Guardian Treasurer while daughter, Tami, was in Jobs Daughters. He served as president of the Westchester Optimist Club and as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Ararat Home and Convalescent Hospital of Los Angeles, an organization his father and others founded 36 years ago.

His commitment to God was the backbone of his life. In all things, he gave thanks and served him with a smile and song in his heart. His faith in Jesus Christ was so significant in his life and he defended it at all costs.

On October 1, 1986, Martin closed his eyes and went to meet his best friend, his Lord, joining the other members of his family that he cherished.

## ELIZABETH KHACHADOORIAN

Elizabeth Akullian Khachadoorian of Averill Park, N.Y. died in Albany Medical Center Hospital as a result of injuries she received in an automobile accident.

Born in Marash, Armenia, she was the wife of the late Harry Khachadoorian, who was founder and president of the Roxy-United Cleaners in the Capital District.

She came to this country as a teenager. She had resided in Menands and in Averill Park for the past 40 years. She was a homemaker and a member of The United Armenian Calvary Congregational Church of Troy, N.Y. and The Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc.

Survivors include two daughters, Dorothy Pope Johnson of Kansas City, MO, and Betty Siedhoff of Loudonville, and six grandchildren.

The family of Mrs. Khachadoorian has requested that in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions be made to The Armenian Missionary Association of America.

## JOSEPH APOIAN

Joseph Apoian entered his eternal rest on May 30, 1987 with funeral services held from the Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church of Havertown, PA. and interment was at the Arlington Cemetery in Drexel Hill.

Born on April 21, 1931, Mr. Apoian work-

ed for thirty years at Drexel University, Philadelphia as professor of Mathematics. He received his Bachelor of Science from Westminster College, Master of Art in Math from Temple University and did post graduate work at the University of Pennsylvania for a number of years.

Mr. Apoian loved nature and was involved in all sorts of sports. He had many friends, but his loyal friends who stood by him until the last moment of his days were Paul Kane, a high school classmate, and Billy Kosigan.

Joseph was a Christian in Word and Deed and supported many Ministries among which being the Martyrs' Church, the AMAA, the Armenian Student Association and the Ministries of Charles Stanley, Brother Graham and Brother Green of the Electronic media.

Life is not measured in years, but in the quality by which it was lived. Joseph lived 56 short years, but his life was full. In the first place, he lived a healthy life. If he had not, he might not have lasted that long, and his emphasis on a healthy life was based on the Scriptures, particularly Romans 12:1 — "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

Next, Joseph used every talent God had given him to the fullest, and he fully deserves the words of Christ used for the servant who had used the money assigned to him to the full, "His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord". Matthew 25:31.

When this writer visited him at the hospital, Joseph quoted to him Isaiah 40:31, "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint".

Full aware of the end, he also quoted the words of Job, "Though he slay me, yet shall I trust in Him". Strong faith as the true characteristic of this man.

In the fourth place, Joseph was a man who loved everyone and was willing to share God's gifts bestowed upon him with others. He was fair and he cared, both for family and friend and acquaintances. He was the counselor of the family. What is most worthwhile is that his relationships were based on love, particularly on I Corinthians, Chapter 13. His concept was that love and to be kind and patient, humble and generous, unselfish and pure. Like the Apostle, Paul, he had faith, he hoped, but he saw love and charity as the greatest of all.

A good friend of the AMAA, the Board of Directors mourn his absence and extend sincere sympathies to his father, Michael, his

Mother, Elizabeth and sisters, Anna and Diana, as well as to his nephew, Michael and all his relations.

## KOHAR BEDROSIAN

Kohar Bedrosian, 84, of Westwood, New Jersey died on May 18, 1987 in Pascack Valley Hospital after a long illness.

Born on September 27, 1902 in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, she was the daughter of Assadour and Pauline Bedikian. A short time after completing her teacher-training, she met her late husband Puzant C. Bedrosian who had come to Bulgaria from this country to manage a U.S. owned Oriental rug business. They were married in 1921 and came to this country shortly thereafter. They lived most of the 52 years of their marriage in the Washington Heights section of New York City.

Surviving are her son, Vahe P. Bedrosian; her brother, Melik Bedikian; and her three grandchildren, Steven Bedrosian, Margaret Rassam, and Jean Bedrosian.

Services were held on the evening of May 20, 1987 at the Armenian Presbyterian Church in Paramus, and interment took place the next morning at the Cedar Grove Cemetery in Flushing, New York.

## ROBERT K. PAPAZIAN

Robert K. Papazian, 73, made the transition from this life to life eternal on January 9, 1987. He was born in Worcester, Mass., son of Hagop S. and Satenig Papazian.

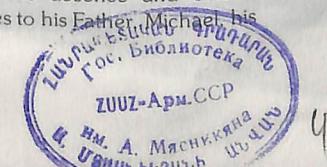
Mr. Papazian was a machinist at Norton Co., where he worked for 33 years, retiring in 1975. He then worked for five years at Digital Equipment Corp. in Northboro.

He was a member of the Armenian Church of the Martyrs and a church trustee for many years. He was a member of Lodge 56 of Odd Fellows, the Hiram Retirees Club, the Greendale Retired Men's Club, Aletheia Grotto, Wollaston Lodge of Masons in Quincy, and the Armenian-American Veterans Association, Inc.

He leaves his wife, Julia (Antaramian) Papazian; two sons, Stephen J. and Gregory B. Papazian; two sisters, Adeline Sahagian and Haigoohi Manuelian, all of Worcester; and several nephews and nieces.

The AMAA Board of Directors extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased through the medium of the AMAA NEWS.

Bogosian, Gladys  
Worcester, MA Nov. 16, 1986  
Kojigian, Alex  
Sanger, CA Dec. 13, 1986  
Harilee, William  
Grand Blanc, MI Dec. 31, 1986



Papazian, Robert	Worcester, MA	Jan. 9, 1987
*Tashjian, Nouart		Jan. 28, 1987
Sarkissian, Ann Grace	Southfield, MI	Feb. 5, 1987
Levonian, Beatrice	Watertown, MA	Feb. 13, 1987
Iskian, John	White Plain, NY	Feb. 25, 1987
Mushegan, Dorothy	Anaheim, CA	Feb. 27, 1987
*Khachadourian, Elizabeth	Troy, NY	March, 9, 1987
Tabakian, Taqui	Watertown, MA	March 15, 1987
*Najarian, Milton	Fairlawn, NJ	March 18, 1987
*Shishmanian, Galipse		March 25, 1987
Keldjian, Krikor	Los Angeles, CA	April 2, 1987
Najarian, Albert, Sr.	Avon Park, FL	April 11, 1987
*Gulezian, Alice	Windham, NH	April 12, 1987
*Turadian, Haiganoosh	Pleasant Hills, CA	April 17, 1987
*Paloutzian, Jack	Sherman Oaks, CA	April 18, 1987
Hagopian, Ann	River Edge, NJ	April 26, 1987
*Bedrosian, Kohar	Wash. Twp., NJ	May 18, 1987
Avakian, Hemayak	Great Neck, NY	May 31, 1987
*Apoian, Joseph	Philadelphia, PA	May 31, 1987
*Koumjian, Edward	Sacramento, CA	
Goorigian, Nerves	Pawtucket, RI	
Parvanian, Armene	Lynn, PA	
Goodman, William	Long Meadow, MA	
Hajinlian, Karmig	Rego Park, NY	
*Smith, Helen	Clifton, NJ	
Skenderian, Ethel	Hrant, Norair	
Tersian, Nouritsa	Landover, MD	
Barsumian, Rose	Barington, IL	
Markarian, Paul	Allentown, PA	
Tersian, Nouritsa	Broomall, PA	
*Aghajanian, Ghevont	Devletian, Gary	
	Rockville, MD	

\*Memorials were designated for AMAA.

\*\*Bequest Assigned.

# IF YOU ALREADY HAVE A WILL...

Mr. M. felt good about having his will written. He tucked it safely away in his bank box, breathed a contented sigh, and never thought about it again.

He had provided for his wife, his son, and his favorite charity, feeling that the amount he had designated for each would be appropriate. He provided the necessary resources to see his family through adjustments, supply income for his wife, and a healthy boost to the charity, which was the residual beneficiary also.

During the next twenty years, Mr. M. prospered far more than he had expected. His estate grew, through fortunate investments and an inheritance from his uncle.

When Mr. M. died, his astonished wife and son learned that she was to receive \$15,000 of the estate, the son \$5,000, and another \$5,000, plus the residue to the charity... \$150,000!

By contesting the will, the wife and son were able to equalize the bequests; however, the process was lengthy and cost them considerably in expense as well as frustration and time.

If Mr. M. had reviewed his will even once during those twenty years, he would have seen immediately that a new will was called for... but he never thought to do so.

**Reports indicate that more than half the adults who die in America each year do not have wills.** And of those who do, most should have updated their wills at some point.

Here are a few of the reasons a will might need changing:

1) A move to a new state of residence. State laws govern the distribution of estates, and these laws vary from state to state. If you move to another state, be sure to have an attorney in your new state review your will to be sure it complies with the law there.

2) A death in the family, or birth, or marriage. Any change in the family membership should call for a review of your will, to be sure that you have included all the heirs you intend to, and that any bequest for a deceased member is covered by the proper clause. Married names of daughters, nieces, sisters should be given.

3) An inheritance. Your will should reflect the new addition to your estate, and if you feel the property should revert back to your side of the family (rather than to a spouse) after your death, this should be designated in your will.

4) A change in your giving interests. Through the years significant changes do occur in our values, in our personal involvement in charitable causes of many kinds... and certainly many people grow in their commitment to Christ and the Great Commission. You may find that a will written many years ago is inadequate because it does not include a bequest for missions, if this is one of your lifetime concerns.

Remember that "your last will and testament" doesn't have to be your final one. Wills can be rewritten or amended at any time. A new will, properly signed, witnessed and dated, replaces any previous will.

## WE'RE ASKING FOR YOUR FINAL GIFT TO MISSIONS!

Your final gift? Yes, that gift which you can plan **now** and give **later**—through a bequest in your will. (Of course, we trust you'll want to continue giving in the meantime, too!) The world outreach of the AMAA will be accomplished as dedicated people plan and give, including their testamentary gifts.



A will is of primary importance for your family, too. You'll do them a favor if you write your will — and keep it up-to-date.

For help in writing or updating your will, write for our free booklet, "37 Things People 'Know' About Wills That Aren't Really So." It is an authoritative and eye-opening publication and it's yours on request. There's no obligation.

— CLIP AND MAIL —

To: Planned Giving Department  
AMAA

140 Forest Avenue  
Paramus, N.J. 07652

Please send me a free copy of the booklet, "37 Things People 'Know' About Wills That Aren't Really So."

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